

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE COMMUNITY OF ODESSA AND MIDLAND, TEXAS AND ITS MEDICAL LEADERSHIP ON THE 3RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE AUGUST 31, 2019 MASS SHOOTING

HON. AUGUST PFLUGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 2, 2022

Mr. PFLUGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the victims of the August 31, 2019 mass shooting event in Odessa and Midland, Texas, recognize the citizens of these communities, and thank the EMS and other first responders, hospitals, emergency rooms and trauma centers, as well as city leadership. I commend the preparedness of those who were flooded with casualties, and wish to emphasize the importance of medical leadership and preparedness throughout the United States.

Medical and law enforcement throughout the area were propelled into action during this shooting event, including city EMS medical director Dr. Sudip Bose, Incident Commander Chief Rodd Huber; Odessa Fire Rescue Chief John Alvarez; Medical Center Hospital CEO Russell Tippin; the men and women of the Odessa Police Department and the city's SWAT team; Texas Highway Patrol officers; Midland Police; trauma teams, first responders, nurses, administrators, citizens, and so many unnamed others throughout the area who provided aid where and when they could.

The seven victims include 15-year-old Leilah Hernandez, 40-year-old Joseph Griffith, 29-year-old Mary Granados, 25-year-old Edwin Peregrino, 57-year-old Rodolfo Julio Arco, 30-year-old Kameron Kartless Brown, 35-year-old Raul Garcia. 25 others were injured, including three police officers.

Every city needs to formulate a preparedness and response plan for a mass casualty event.

Medical leadership is paramount.

A multiagency team, created years in advance, was the driving force behind getting a plan in place before the Odessa-Midland area shooting took place. This team was medically led by Dr. Sudip Bose, an emergency physician double board certified in emergency medicine and EMS (disaster medicine). After the horrific event, he used his expertise as a former front-line Army medical officer who treated casualties in the battle of Fallujah, Iraq to address world leaders at the United Nations General Assembly on how to keep cities safe before and after medical disasters.

Given the risks to all involved, it is imperative that communities and first responders make rational risk/reward decisions about when and how to handle an active shooter and provide medical care to victims during and after an event. This kind of action does not happen without prior preparation and practice.

I am proud to know the preparedness for this kind of event is a priority in the Odessa-

Midland area, and I am proud to represent the citizens, police and medical respondents who handled those innocently caught in the field of fire of the perpetrator. We must continue to champion preparedness training and ensure our medical leaders are equipped with the tools they need to address any situation that comes through their door.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ROBERT CHASE

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 2, 2022

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert Chase, a World War II veteran who passed away in early July at the age of 95. Born in 1926 in Lynn, Massachusetts and later residing in Rollinsford, Robert was a veteran, active member of his community, and a beloved father, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

As a young patriot, Robert enlisted in the U.S. Army at the age of 18 to fight in World War II, where he bravely fought with the 102nd Infantry Division in Europe. Robert was awarded a bronze star for bravery early in his career. He continued to serve his country in the years after the war as an officer and combat engineer in the 101st Engineers Division and as an officer in the Air Defense Command.

Following the conclusion of his service in 1969, Robert worked diligently in business for different companies before he founded the NH Clinic for Hypnosis in 1980. There he helped the people of New Hampshire with a variety of treatments, including helping Granite Staters quit smoking. He especially loved performing his hypnosis for local schools. He was also an avid woodworker, restored antiques, and loved hosting his annual yard sale for his entire neighborhood.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I wish to share my condolences with Bob's family, including his late wife Dorothy, their three sons and daughter-in-laws, two daughters and son-in-laws, eight grandchildren, and six great grandchildren. As we recognize Mr. Chase, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring his rich life and legacy.

HONORING THE SIXTH FLOOR MUSEUM STAFF

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 2, 2022

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my sincere appreciation to the staff of The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey

Plaza in Dallas, Texas. My Washington and district staff joined me there recently to take a highly informative tour.

The August work period afforded my staff and I the opportunity to meet together in Texas. As a part of the two-day meeting, we took the time to meet with the hospitable staff at The Sixth Floor Museum. From our first meeting inquiry, Ms. Nicola Longford—Chief Executive Officer, graciously welcomed us to visit the museum. Other museum staff who were instrumental in arranging our visit were: Mr. Tim Case—Director of Operations and Special Initiatives, Mr. Steve Warden—Operations Manager, and Mr. David Ontiveros—Assistant Operations Manager.

We were fortunate to be greeted by Ms. Kimberly Camuel Bryan—Chief Philanthropy Officer, and to have our tour personally conducted by Mr. Stephen Fagin—Curator. The Sixth Floor Museum is located in the former Texas School Book Depository building in Dallas. On the morning of November 22, 1963, Texas School Book Depository employee Lee Harvey Oswald, retrieved a rifle from a cached hiding spot, and took a position in the corner of a sixth floor window overlooking the publicly pre-announced motorcade route for President John F. Kennedy through downtown Dallas. As the Presidential motorcade slowly turned from Houston Street onto Elm Street, the crowds gathered below started excitedly waving and greeting President Kennedy and First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy. Oswald is presumed to have opened fire on the automobiles below. Bullets struck and killed President Kennedy and wounded Texas Governor John Connally as the cars traveled through Dealey Plaza.

The Sixth Floor Museum reimagines that tragic event forever fatefully ingrained in the hearts and minds of the citizens and leaders of Dallas. During our tour, Mr. Fagin pointed out the photographs, film clips, artifacts, scale models and displays that document the assassination and thoughtfully examine its continued impact on the American people and its place in our Nation's history. The museum chronicles the life and significant contributions of President Kennedy and his administration's legacy.

I am grateful for the hospitality of The Sixth Floor Museum staff and especially appreciative of the time and authoritative expertise Mr. Fagin shared with me and my staff. I would encourage everyone who has the opportunity to visit this historic venue.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF JEAN McDERMOTT

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 2, 2022

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, today Jean M. McDermott would have turned 94. The "adored wife, awesome mother, successful executive assistant and cherished

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